corruption, in terms of the Constitutional order, as set out in Article 243G, it is the State Legislatures and State executive who have been charged with endowing "the Panchayats with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self-government". Accordingly, it is primarily the responsibility of State Governments to monitor the implementation of works and the delivery of services by the Panchayati Raj Institutions. In so far as the schemes of the Ministry of Rural Development are concerned, District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been established under the chairpersonship of Members of Parliament.

(b) Panchayati Raj will be truly successful only when Panchayati Raj Institutions are effectively endowed with functions, finances and functionaries as set out in the National Common Minimum Programme. The Union Government is working along with States to achieve this goal.

Coastal Zone Management Authority in Goa

*259. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Goa Coastal Zone Management Authority has started ground level survey as well as house verification of dwelling units and all other constructions in the Coastal Regulation Zone-Ill area, in order to identify the structures that were constructed after February 19, 1991;

(b) whether the survey has been completed;

(c) whether the authority has submitted its report;

(d) whether any action has been taken in that regard; and

(e) if so, the details, thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir. In compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Bombay at Panjim-Goa in Writ Petitions No.422 of 1998 and No.99 of 1999, the Goa Coastal Zone Management Authority (GCZMA) has initiated house to house field validation to ascertain the violations in the Coastal Regulation Zone II and III areas of Goa.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Increasing pollution in various rivers

†*260. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pollution has been increasing in various rivers including the Ganga despite spending crores of rupees;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the methods which have been employed to make the three rivers of Europe viz. Thames, Rhines and Danube, which were previously highly polluted ones, but now pollution free;

(c) whether any high level enquiry has been conducted into the matter of making these holy rivers in India pollution free;

(d) whether the agencies responsible for the same have been punished; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) River conservation work has been taken up for a number of rivers in the country, starting with the Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase I in 1985, for polluted stretches in the Ganga river, extending to the major tributaries of the Ganga in 1993, and further expanding to cover 34 major rivers in 20 States under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) from 1995 onwards. The expenditure on GAP-I was Rs.433.30 crore and the approved cost of NRCP is Rs,4783 crore.

With the completion of the pollution abatement works, the water quality of the river Ganga has shown an improvement at major locations over its pre-GAP quality but this is not so in the case of the Yamuna, primarily due to the large gap between the demand and the availability of sewage treatment capacity, particularly in Delhi, and lack of availability of fresh water for ensuring minimum flow in the river. The works in respect of other rivers are at different stages of completion.

(b) The river clean up projects in rivers like the Thames, Rhine and Danube span a long period of time, between 20—40 years, with much higher investments and costs when compared with Ganga Action Plan and the NRCP. The strategies involved were primarily, identification of pollution hotspots and treating of domestic and industrial effluents through construction of wastewater treatment plants. For Indian rivers, domestic sewage is the major source of pollution and interception and diversion of raw sewage and treatment through sewage treatment plants form the main components of pollution abatement works undertaken by the Government. The works are implemented through agencies nominated by the State Government. As per an independent evaluation study conducted by University of Bath and Metroeconomica, United Kingdom and the Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi (2000), the Ganga Action Plan compared favourably, both in terms of cost and time taken, and results achieved with those of the major rivers of the world like Thames, Rhine and Danube.

(c) to (e) No high level enquiry has been conducted. However, 314 defaulting industries have been closed as on 31.12.2006.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO THE UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Development of technique for preservation of fruits

1829. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has developed a technique of long lasting preservation of fruits;